

U. S. WEATHER BUREAU, FEBRUARY 2—
Last 24 hours' rainfall, 0; Temperature, max.
72; min. 63; Weather, Showery.

Established July 2, 1856.

SUGAR—96° Test Centrifugals, 5.24; Per
Ton, \$104.80. 88 Analysis Beets, 15s 9d; Per
Ton, \$108.40.

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HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1905.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

MARKET FOR OUR COFFEE

The Government Will Buy Product If Price and Quality Are Right.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS CONCLUDED TO GIVE HAWAIIAN COFFEE A CHANCE.

In a letter from Governor Winthrop of Porto Rico, forwarded by Secretary Atkinson from Washington to Governor Carter and received per the transport Sheridan yesterday, occurs the following paragraph:

"The War Department and the Navy Department have issued orders that Hawaiian Coffee and Porto Rican Coffee shall be advertised for, and shall be given the preference, cost and quality being the same."

That means that, hereafter, when the army and navy are found to be in need of supplies of coffee, as they are every year, the product of these islands shall be included in the advertisements, for bids for supplies, and that if the quality and prices are shown to be equal, then the product of American territory shall be given the preference in awarding the contracts.

And thus the market begins to come for one of the products of small farming in Hawaii.

Continuing his letter, Governor Winthrop writes that he is rather inclined to think that a small duty will be put upon coffee, providing there shall be an extra session of Congress—but he has small hope that there will be an extra session. If a small duty is put on, he says that it will be apt to stimulate replanting in Hawaii and Porto Rico, and to induce coffee raising in the Philippines. However, he hopes to get to Washington next year and do some work in behalf of the tropical products of insular America.

"It seems to me," said Governor Carter yesterday, "that the suggestion of Mr. Bruner in this connection would cover the case better. That is, we would not antagonize the stand patters if we were to work for the fixing of a standard for coffee by Congress, as was done in the case of tea. Congress, under the law, has a perfect right to do this. The tea standard has been attacked in the United States Supreme Court, and has been sustained."

In this connection, the position of Mr. Bruner, as outlined in Governor Carter's annual report, will be found interesting. "The Dingley bill," writes Bruner, "particularly prescribes the remedy by which the United States can secure a much larger share of Brazil's trade, in that it empowers the President, when in his judgment countries supplying the United States with coffee discriminate against United States products, with authority to place a duty on the coffee imported from that country. Brazil trades more with Germany than with the United States, because the Germans are there on the ground, and while American diplomacy has been active to bring about a change, not until a reprisal by tariff duty on her coffee was broached has Brazil been inclined to act. Minister Bryan has recently been reported to have succeeded in effecting satisfactory reciprocity arrangements."

"Great quantities of the lowest grades of coffee are imported regularly into the United States, and it is a well-known fact that it is the dumping ground for coffee-producing countries. If you question any

(Continued on Page 3.)

MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS' MEETING

New Officers are Elected for the Ensuing Year and a Report is Had on Desired Tax Law Amendments.

At a meeting of the new board of directors of the Merchants' Association, held in the association rooms yesterday afternoon, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:

President, George W. Smith (re-elected).

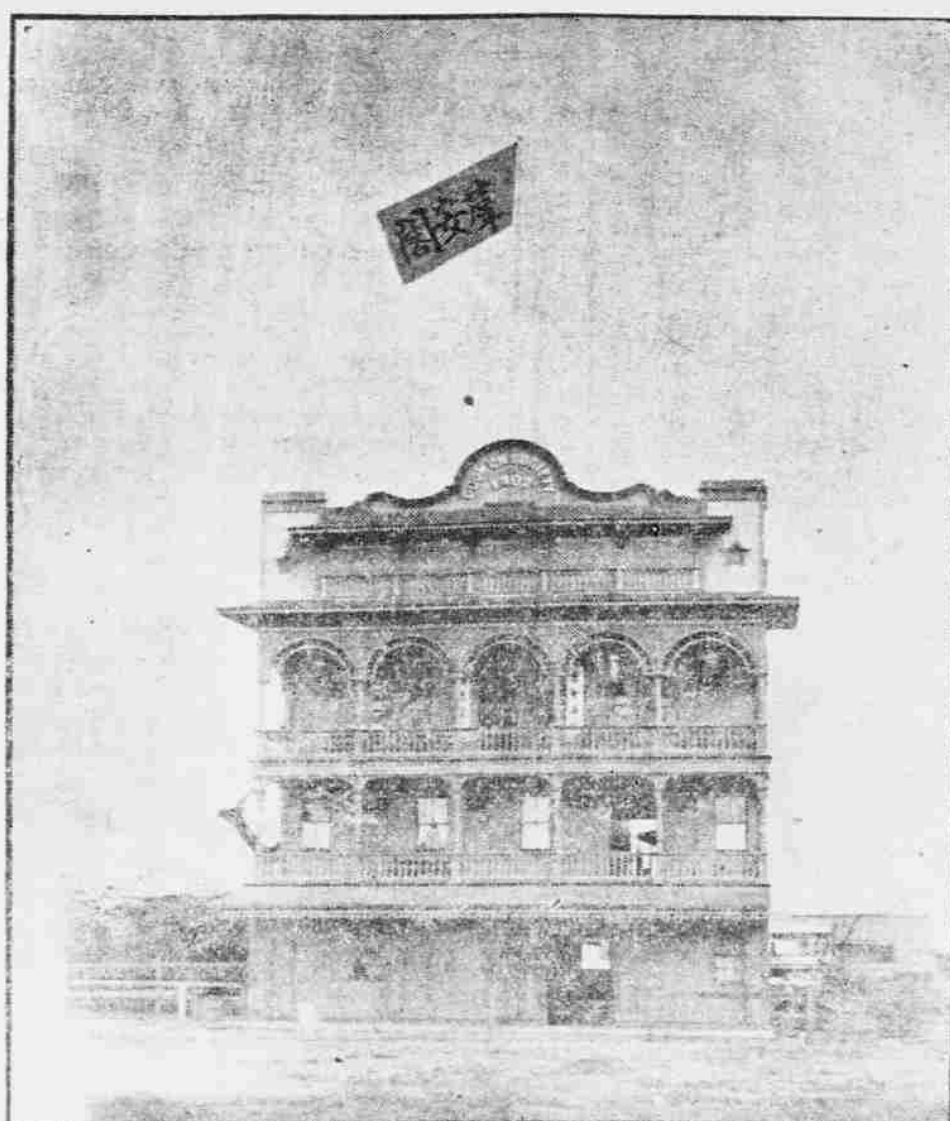
Vice president, Robt. Catton (re-elected).

Secretary, Richard H. Trent (succeeding J. H. Soper).

Treasurer, W. W. Harris (re-elected). These officers, with J. Wakefield, J. F. Hamburg, J. A. Kennedy, W. T. Lucas and M. Phillips, form the board of directors. Standing committees for the new year will be announced soon by the president.

There will be a special meeting of the members of the Merchants' Association in their rooms in the Alexander Young building this Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock to consider the report of the Committee on Taxation. The committee has received some excellent written remarks on the subject from members of the association who have given the question of taxation, as it applies to the mercantile community, some

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION OPENS MOST AUSPICIOUSLY



QUONG ON CLUBHOUSE.

"Kung he fat choy!"

It always rains on Chinese New Year. Which is a mercy. Because, if it did not, all kinds of things that result from playing with fire would be likely to happen. They began happening at midnight last night, with a great and long-continued noise. At the first the whistles blew at the hour of twelve sharp. That was the signal. Then a fiery pandemonium broke forth, and raged up and down all through the Asiatic quarter of the town, from Nuuanu to River street

(Continued on Page 4.)

JAP SOLDIER MAY BE HELD

Witness in Murder Case Ordered Home by Mikado.

An international incident is likely to grow out of the fact that Dr. Y. Nagai, physician of Hilo, has been ordered by the Mikado to rejoin his colors at the front in the war with Russia.

Yesterday Attorney-General Andrews received a wireless message from Hilo stating that Dr. Nagai was wanted as the principal witness in the Morioka murder case, notwithstanding which he had expressed his purpose to leave for Japan at the earliest possible moment. It being his intention to start for Honolulu on the next Kaimuki.

The staff of the Attorney General at once began looking up the law on the subject, Mr. Andrews expressing his determination not to let the chief witness to a capital crime slip through his fingers. Accordingly, when Dr. Nagai reaches Honolulu, if he gets so far, he will find that the matter of his departure for Japan will be more than merely buying his ticket and sailing away.

Morioka Kintaro was beaten and clubbed and stabbed to death at Hilo on the 24 day of January. The Coroner's jury found that the murder was committed by one Morito Kizo and two accomplices. Indeed, after the inquest had consumed two days, the accused man finally broke down and confessed to the crime. He claimed that he went to the house where the dead man had lived with his wife and called him out, and that when Morioka came out he had a cane knife, which he tried to use on the accused man. Morito then said that he turned upon him and killed him in self-defense.

The theory of the state, however, rests upon the fact that the two men had quarreled about a woman, and that the self-confessed assassin, a gambler, followed his victim from the country to Hilo, enticed him from his house after night and killed him in cold blood.

(Continued on page 2.)

SOME TALK OF SHORTAGE

Postal Inspector Hare Examining Postoffice at Koloa.

Postal Inspector Hare has been in Koloa, Kauai, for the past few days looking into the administration of the postoffice there. The town was full of rumors concerning the matter last night. It was said by merchants and others that there had been a large and unaccountable "shortage" discovered, amounting to \$27,000, and that Mr. Hare had taken the matter in hand for an investigation on behalf of the department at Washington. Mr. Hare himself is expected to return to Honolulu on Sunday, when fuller details of the matter will no doubt be forthcoming.

The postmaster at Koloa is Manuel A. Rego, who is also the keeper of a general merchandise store and a livery stable, and is likewise a cane planter. He has been in business at Koloa for more than fifteen years, and has the very highest standing among the mercantile community. His credit is now, and always has been, of the best. He has for his bookkeeper and assistant postmaster John P. Spalding, said to be a young half-white, who has had the main handling of the postoffice business, although of course the postmaster himself, under his bond, is responsible for the conduct of the office.

At first sight it seems hardly credible that there should be a shortage of anything like the amount mentioned in so small a place as Koloa, but it is the postoffice for a large and prosperous section and is particularly a point favored by Japanese, who have sent money home by postal money order. Koloa, moreover, has been the point from which traveling salesmen and collectors from Honolulu houses have been accustomed to remit to their home offices. The Koloa office, it is said, has in this way done a business that will foot up at least one thousand dollars a month. Even so, it would seem that \$27,000 is a very large sum of money to remain unaccounted for.

The last postoffice shortage in the Territory occurred at Kaapa, also on the island of Kauai, the defaulter being convicted in the Federal Court.

PREPARING FOR BATTLE

The Opposing Armies in Manchuria Are Getting Ready to Join Issue.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLEGRAMS.)

OKU'S HEADQUARTERS, February 3.—The Russians are still in force in front of the Japanese left. There is occasional firing and both armies are preparing for battle. The weather has moderated to thirteen degrees below zero.

REFUGEES FROM PORT ARTHUR.

CHEFOO, February 3.—Eight hundred refugees from Port Arthur have arrived here.

THE GREAT STRIKE WINS A SENATE FROM THE CZAR

ST. PETERSBURG, February 3.—With the exception of Poland, order has been restored. The Czar has sanctioned the proposals for the establishment of a Senate to check the evils arising from the arbitrary acts of the ministers and other officials.

DISORDER AT CRACOW.

VIENNA, February 3.—There are serious disturbances at Cracow. In a fight with the police fifteen persons were wounded and many arrested.

SECRETARY FOR SCOTLAND.

LONDON, February 3.—The Marquis of Linlithgow has been appointed Secretary for Scotland.

PHILIPPINE TARIFF BILL.

WASHINGTON, February 3.—Secretary Taft, in an exhaustive letter, has urged Congress to pass the Philippine tariff bill.

COLD WEATHER ON MAINLAND.

CHICAGO, February 3.—The Northwestern and Middle States are in the grasp of extremely cold weather. It is fourteen degrees below zero at Chicago.

PUBLIC BUILDING BILL IS LIKELY TO PASS

Senator Warren of Wyoming Thinks the Prospect for Action at This Session is Good.

"So far as a public building bill is concerned," said Senator Warren of Wyoming in a recent interview, "I think that the chances for its passage at this session are very good."

Senator Warren of Wyoming, who is good friend of Hawaii—one of the best the Territory has in Congress, in fact—will be the head of the Senate Public Buildings Committee by the rule of seniority upon the retirement of Vice President-Elect Fairbanks from the floor of the Senate. Warren is next in line. His dictum, therefore, is the best that can be had.

RODJESTVENSKY'S FLEET.

SEYCHELLES ISLANDS, Indian Ocean, Jan. 25.—The French gunboat Capricorn reports that the Russian Second Pacific Squadron was at Passandava Bay, northwest coast of Madagascar, January 20. It was thought the squadron intended to go to the east coast of Madagascar owing to the hurricane season.

The Seychelles Islands are about 700 miles northeast of Madagascar.

YASHIMA IS SAVED.

VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 22.—With the arrival today of the steamship Athenian comes news in reference to the reported loss of the Japanese battleship Yashima, the Yorozu of Tokio reporting that the battleship was saved and has been repaired. Her guns have been mounted. The Kobe Herald says a new vessel is about to be built for the Japanese navy to replace one of those lost at Port Arthur. Serious riots are reported to have occurred at Seoul by the Athenian.